The Columbus Dispatch

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Jackets blow lead, then top Bruins in shootout / D1

Clarkson talks about 'Meaning of Life' / E1

OSU's Meyer praises team's maturity / D1

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SPECIAL COUNSEL'S INVESTIGATION

Mueller's first move

■ Manafort, partner among 3 indicted ■ Ex-campaign aide talking about Russia

By Joseph Tanfani
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — The special counsel investigating Russia's role in the 2016 presidential race announced criminal charges Monday against three former campaign aides to Donald Trump, including his former campaign manager, marking an explosive new phase in the FBI probe of the president's inner circle.

One of the three repeatedly sought to arrange a meeting between then-candidate Trump and senior Russian officials in London or in Moscow, according to court documents. The meeting did not take place, but court documents describe an extensive effort by Russian officials to gain access to Trump's operation.

Court papers disclosed that George Papadopoulos, a former foreign policy adviser to the Trump campaign, is cooperating with prosecutors led by special counsel Robert Mueller, who is pursuing allegations that Trump's aides cooperated with Russian officials seeking to influence the U.S. election.

Paul Manafort, who was Trump's campaign manager, and Rick Gates, who was Manafort's top deputy and helped run Trump's inauguration, were separately accused of a total of

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Former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort makes his way through the news media Monday as he walks from Federal District Court in Washington after pleading not guilty to felony charges of conspiracy against the United States and other counts. [ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

ANALYSIS

Plea agreement raises key questions

By Aaron Blake
The Washington Post

For the first time, we have a figure from the 2016 Trump campaign who we know is cooperating with special counsel Robert Mueller in his Russia investigation. George Papadopoulos is talking after being caught lying to investigators.

Exactly what that means, we don't really know.

Papadopoulos

But that's just one of several big, juicy questions emanating from the former Trump foreign policy adviser's plea deal. The document is filled with anonymous campaign officials on the other end of Papadopoulos' emails. We may not know who they are, but special counsel Mueller sure does. And in many cases, they seem to have known about contacts with Russia that the campaign and its principals, including President Donald Trump, would later deny.

What follows are seven big questions that emerged in light of the plea deal.

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OPIOID EPIDEMIC

DeWine tells drug industry to pay up

By Randy Ludlow
The Columbus Dispatch

Attorney General Mike DeWine is demanding that drugmakers and distributors pay a not-insignificant price as restitution for what he sees as their role in enslaving and killing Ohioans with prescription opioids.

DeWine

DeWine on Monday gave five drugmakers and three

SEE OPIOIDS, A4

500-YEAR SPLIT

Lutherans, Catholics pursue unity

By Danae King
The Columbus Dispatch

Tuesday is the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, and as many people celebrate what led to the birth of the Lutheran faith, others focus on the unity that is finally developing between Lutherans and the Roman Catholics they split from 500 years ago.

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